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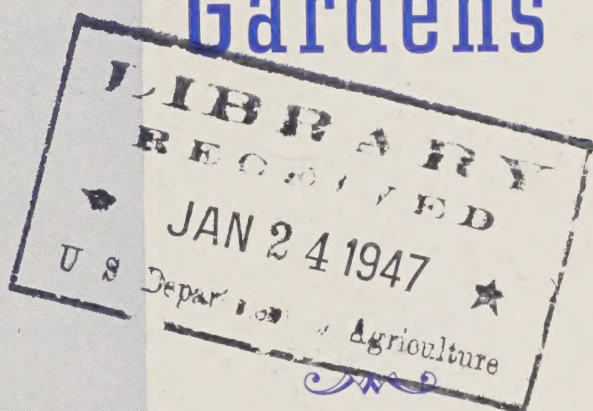




62.91

1947

# Offerman Delphinium Gardens



*At the 1946  
Washington  
State Fair  
"Offerman's  
Delphinium  
Display"  
received first and  
second prizes*



4709 W. STEVENS  
SEATTLE 6, WASH.





## IMPORTANT SHIPPING INFORMATION

Please read before sending your order.

**ON ALL ORDERS . . .** We enclose cultural directions to assist you.

In the State of Washington, please add 3% State Sales Tax.

**SEED ORDERS . . .** Seeds are shipped **postpaid**.

When seed arrives, place the packets in the refrigerator, or coolest place, until planting time.

**PLANT ORDERS . . .** All plants are shipped to you via EXPRESS, F.O.B. Seattle. We also ship by Air Mail. On request we ship by parcel post, if no Express Office is in your location.

Whenever possible I will send you word a day before the plants are shipped.

Seedling plants are only in mixed colors. Please do not ask for **seedling** plants by name.



# Named Series of the Pacific Hybrid Strain

**SUMMER SKIES . . .** What better words can be chosen for this favorite than the crystal clear, unshaded blue of a bright summer's day. The white bee flashes against the lovely, light blue.

**BLUE BIRD . . .** The rare and thrilling flash of the blue-bird's wings is caught in this finest medium delphinium blue. There are slight iridescent hues at the floret tips. A very fine white bee.

**GALAHAD . . .** Always there is a special beauty to a pure white flower. This series is the triumph of the whites with a frosted sheen folding away from the pure white bee.

**PERCIVAL . . .** This is the other giant white that merits a place in this group. All is glistening white but the startling black bee.

**LANCELOT . . .** The beautiful flower of this very large Delphinium whispers of the clearest lilac self. Its white bee continues the delicate tones. A rare color in Delphinium.

**GUINEVERE . . .** The silken petals are of softest pink-shaded lavender, with good white bee. This is one of the most delicate of the named series.

**CAMELIARD . . .** Now the clearest, truest lavender with exceptionally large flowers. The very double flowers swirl from a white bee.

**KING ARTHUR . . .** Of course, the King must wear the royal purple, with faint glows of royal blue at the base of the florets. The white bee is like a shining shield upon the regal velvet.

**BLACK KNIGHT . . .** The darkest violet of all with the black bee intensifying the mysterious depths of each flower. Even the flower stems are darkest green to accentuate the deep tone.

**ROUND TABLE . . .** Here you may have the whole glorious array of all the Pacific Hybrids in new color combinations, always blending into an exciting and beautiful picture.

**DREAM, Pudor's . . .** One of the best shadings of sky blue and soft pink originated on the West Coast. White bee. It has very well formed flowers with excellent sheen.

## SEEDS

Approximately 200 seeds in each full packet.

|                              |         |                      |        |
|------------------------------|---------|----------------------|--------|
| 1 packet, your choice.....   | \$ 2.00 | 1 half packet .....  | \$1.00 |
| 6 packets, your choice.....  | 10.00   | 6 half packets.....  | 5.00   |
| 12 packets, your choice..... | 17.50   | 12 half packets..... | 9.00   |

## PLANTS

**SEEDLING PLANTS,** from superior specimens of Offerman's Gardens, hardy, field grown.....\$4.00 per dozen  
Not less than 1 dozen sold

**NAMED PLANTS,** that have already bloomed in our Gardens. Choose from the above list.....\$1.50 each, or \$15.00 per dozen  
No order less than 3 plants. Make your own selection

**SEED** from **Blackmore & Langdon's** Imported Delphiniums.. The finest ENGLISH Strain, and the only Delphiniums to receive 8 R.H.S. Gold Medals, 17 Awards of Merit and 3 first prizes at the British Delphinium Society Show.

1 packet (150 seeds).....\$1.00



## DELPHINIUM HYBRIDS for Your Garden

Their stately splendor so enhances the garden that they have become the stars of the June picture. The September display brings a brilliant contrast to the rush of autumn colors and is often enjoyed even more than in midsummer. The harmony of the beloved delphinium blues shade into the delicacy of hushed lavenders, are lifted upon notes of purest white, only to play back into the thunderous tones of the Black Knight.

Perhaps the most gratifying quality of the superior Delphiniums of today is the hardiness and good nature allowing every garden to own this aristocrat. These newer strains of Delphiniums are no temperamental hybrids. Seldom is found a perennial that gives such a gigantic exhibition from seed in one year. In all of our Delphinium stock, you will enjoy superior quality in the strong stems, luxuriant leaf growth which will send forth a breath-taking spire of beauty, exquisite in every detail. The spires in Offerman Gardens average 6 feet tall and individual blossoms 3 inches across, with no less than 13 and up to 22 petals.





## PRESENTING

# OFFERMAN'S SILVER QUEEN

When presenting such a glorious newcomer to the Delphinium world, it is difficult to express the joy it has given me during the years I have spent working with it. Crossing the best of the English strains with America's Pacific Hybrids, I found this beauty.

It has all the opalescent splendor of true Mother of Pearl, shining from the bud through to the shimmering loveliness of the huge double flowers. It brings to one all the soft shades of distant mountains in a summer twilight.

The habits of growth are of the very finest from the exceptionally tall, sturdy spikes to the lush dark foliage. The enormous flowers are borne on individual black-green stems, slender but unbending. These very long, dark stems give it a grace that might well inspire a ballet. Indeed, the half-blown buds are shaped as a billowy fairy gown of pearl satin with the filmy blues, violets and palest amethyst falling about in cascades.

The bee, whatever the intensity of white, or brown, or black, lends an enchantment to each flower. I never have been sure which bee I like best for this flower.

As Silver Queen opens, it is as if a bright moonbeam has come to shine upon each flower, sending the twilight colors into the shadows, leaving only a breath of opalescence in its silvery light.

### SEEDS

1 generous packet.....\$5.00

## INTRODUCING

# "MADEMOISELLE"

This lovely, low-growing plant, of softest, creamy chartreuse, is an entirely new color in our Delphiniums. It is a truly tantalizing color that raises the tempo of any garden group. It has the large, double size of the Offerman creations. Whether the bee is black or matching, it is always accented with a brush of chartreuse. The extremely piquant air of this palest chartreuse catches everyone's eye in the gardens.

### SEEDS

1 generous packet.....\$5.00

# OFFERMAN'S EXHIBITION STRAIN

The finest mixture from the excellent stock of Offerman Gardens. For the Delphinium grower who enjoys new color combinations and the fun of trying the "unknown" this will be his choice. From this Strain came our largest flower this season, measuring 4-1/16 inches across.

### SEEDS

1 packet, approx. 200 seeds.....\$2.00

## OFFERMAN ADVICE . . .

Each year I receive many letters asking for advice on Delphinium culture. With the hope that a few of my notes may be of help, I will answer some of the most-asked questions.

**ABOUT THE SEEDS . . .** There are two seasons to start Delphiniums from seed, Spring and August. In parts of the country that have cold winters, the summer sowing should be done between July 15th-August 1st to give the seedlings a better "toehold" for winter. The spring planting will bloom in the fall of the same year.

For the soil in flats; contrary to belief, leaf mold is not essential, but sand is VERY IMPORTANT. Lighten the garden soil with sand, thoroughly mixed together. The top layer of the soil should be finely sifted, ready for the seed. To be sure the seed is not buried too deeply, I strongly advise broadcasting the seed and then sifting fine soil over the surface ONLY THE THICKNESS OF A DIME. Press the planted soil down gently . . . not too hard. Water with fine spray and cover seedbed with moist burlap or wet paper. Remove the covering as soon as the seeds come up. Remember too, a shaded seed flat is easier to keep moist and much better for the tiny sprouted seeds than too frequent watering. Good, fresh seed should germinate in 10 days to 2 weeks.

**ABOUT TRANSPLANTING . . .** When the seedlings are about 1½ to 2 inches high, they will have three true leaves and are ready to be moved. Depending upon the sowing time, they will either go into a coldframe or lathed seed bed in temperate climate for the winter. As soon as the frosts are over and the soil is warming up, transplant in permanent position about two feet apart.

**ABOUT "BARNYARD" MANURES . . .** This is, of course, the best kind of fertilizer. As for the different types (sheep, cow, goat, rabbit, horse) it makes no difference. However, ALWAYS MIX LIME WITH MANURES. When planting out my young stock, I prepare the hole by digging in lime and manure (not being too particular about its "well-rotted" quality). Cover with a little soil and set in the plant. I have never had any trouble with over-feeding or "burning" with this method.

**ABOUT THE SOIL . . .** The looser the soil, the better the bloom. Delphinium roots are very thin and go straight down. This is why the soil under the roots must be loose; and the deeper it is prepared, the better the plant can function. Give your plants loose soil; give plenty of water and sunshine and the joys of beautiful flowers will be yours.

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For added pleasure of your favorite flower  
join the  
**AMERICAN DELPHINIUM SOCIETY**

Beautiful yearbook containing history of the newest developments in the Delphinium world. Published annually. Membership \$2.00 per year. Write to:

**CHARLES J. WENK, Secretary, 1058 Allen St.  
SPRINGFIELD 8, MASS.**



# HARDY ENGLISH BORDER CARNATIONS

These garden favorites are especially attractive and suitable for the perennial border. They will bloom during all of July and August and into September and may be left undisturbed for years. These are one of the most trouble-free of the perennials, long and faithful in their bloom.

Carnations demand only sunshine, well-drained soil, with seasonal applications of lime, bone-meal and rotted cow manure. Watering is only necessary when excessively dry and the plants are in an unprotected location. The keynote for the conservation of moisture is thorough cultivation. (Remember to set the plants far enough apart to allow this stirring of the soil.) Don't cut these varieties back after blooming!

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**WELL-ROOTED PLANTS** in a fine mixture for your garden display.  
3 for \$4.00; 6 for \$6.00; 12 for \$10.00



"I specialize in the growing of Delphinium and Carnation plants and seeds. I refer all inquiries for **other flowering plants and bulbs** to the

**PLANT OF THE MONTH CLUB**  
1026 Vance Building  
Seattle 1, Washington

This firm markets only the top quality in both the standard and new varieties of flowering plants and bulbs. I find that garden lovers are interested in their monthly bulletin and complete planting instructions that go with all merchandise shipped. I can sincerely recommend their stock."



We take extreme pride in our Delphiniums in gardens all over the United States. Here are a few of the unsolicited letters we receive every day . . .

Offerman Delphinium Gardens,  
4709 W. Stevens  
Seattle 6, Wash.

June 7, 1946

Dear Sir:

At our local Garden show held yesterday, your Delphiniums took every Blue ribbon.

Respectfully,

V. G. Cook  
Van Wert, Ohio

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Offerman Delphinium Gardens,  
4709 W. Stevens  
Seattle 6, Wash.

Princeton, New Jersey  
June 4, 1946

Dear Mr. Offerman:

Last summer I ordered Delphinium seed from you and I want to tell you of the great pleasure your plants have given me. They came up beautifully and the young plants are beyond anything I have ever had. They are blooming beautifully with very large florets, well spaced and with tall handsome spikes, very strong and showy for the first year.

I took some of them in to my Garden Club where they made a sensation and no doubt you will be hearing from other Princeton members.

May I please have a copy of your folder, as I want to order more seed this summer, but prefer to wait till the new seed comes in.

With many thanks for the great pleasure you have given me in producing these splendid hybrids, I am, yours truly,

Mrs. J. Barnes

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Irwin, Pa.  
June 27, 1946

Offerman Delphinium Gardens,  
4709 W. Stevens  
Seattle 6, Wash.

Dear Sir:

Enclosed please find my order for seed. I bought seeds from you now for two years and I wish you could see my flowers, some 6 feet tall, big, thick spires. People come for miles around for your address, so they can send for the seeds.

They are more beautiful than words can express.  
Thank you.

Mrs. Wm. Busche

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Offerman Delphinium Gardens,  
Seattle 6, Wash.

Fairview, Illinois  
June 1, 1946

Dear Sir:

Plants are blooming in our garden now from seed purchased from you last year. The florets of these are extremely large and beautiful beyond words.

Please find enclosed check for more seed.

Yours very truly,

Merril O. Mahr  
Cincinnati, Ohio

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Mr. Offerman

June 3, 1946

Dear Sir:

I thought you would like to know that the seed I bought from you last year has produced the finest Delphiniums ever grown by me, so I am enclosing a money order for 3 packets of your largest, finest mixed Exhibition Delphinium seed.

Sincerely yours,

Elmer Shepard  
1620 Elkton Place  
Jackson, Michigan

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Offerman Delphinium Gardens

Jackson, Michigan  
May 28, 1946

Dear Sir:

Saw your Specimens in my sister-in-law's garden last year. They are sure beautiful. Send me folder at once.

Thanking you,

Mrs. W. E. Dodge  
Maple Row Farm